

What is claimed is:

1. In a chain drive device having a driving shaft, and a driven shaft, coupled together by an  
2       endless chain, a method comprising the steps of:  
  
3       providing a phaser being interposed between the driving shaft and the  
4       driven shaft; and  
  
5       changing the oscillation rate of the phaser about at least one engine speed  
6       range;  
  
7       thereby reducing undue tension on the endless chain.
1. 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the phaser comprises a rotor, a housing, and a  
2       spool valve for controlling the relative movement between the rotor and the  
3       housing.
1. 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the changing step includes using a variable force  
2       solenoid for applying a different dither frequency upon the spool valve for  
3       reducing the tension on the endless chain.
1. 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the chain drive device is used in a CTA VCT system.
1. 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the chain drive device is used in an OPA VCT system.
1. 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the chain drive device is used in a TA VCT system.